

**REMARKS:**

In regard to the drawings, a copy of Figure 1 is attached showing the deletion of reference 14 as requested by the Examiner. It is pointed out to the Examiner that reference 13B is indeed present in Figure 2 approximately half way down the rear leg 13 on the right of the leg adjacent line 4. The specification has been amended as requested. A fresh abstract is attached correcting the points raised. It is believed that the title is entirely proper as it is directed to the subject matter in hand but if the Examiner has an alternative suggestion, this could be considered.

Claims 1 through 19 have been cancelled without prejudice since these claims are primarily directed to non-elected embodiments. The right is reserved to file one or more divisional or continuation applications to pursue the same or similar claims and no admission is made by this amendment that such claims should be abandoned.

Corrections have been made in claims 20 through 26 in accordance with the examiner's objections concerning clarity and under 35USC112.

Claim 20 has been carefully revised so as to include definition of the right angle receptacles in the front and rear beams which are indicated at 34 in Figures 7 and 9 of the present application.

(The examiner will note that similar receptacles are present in the construction shown in Figure 2 of Bustos.)

Claim 20 has been further amended to include the feature that each shelf has at its rear edge a downwardly turned rear edge portion. The edge portion is further defined as extending across the width of the shelf. The edge portion is yet further defined as extending into the respective rear receptacle.

Claim 20 has also been further amended to include the feature that the front edge of the shelf extends into the front receptacle.

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The problem with which the present invention is concerned is that of the mounting of shelves in existing racking so as to replace the conventional horizontal panels which sit in the receptacles 34 with inclined shelving. This is exactly the same problem with which Bustos is concerned, bearing in mind the same beams which are arranged in the same racking as shown in Figure 2 of Bustos.

However the solution to the problem is entirely different. In the present invention, as now defined in claim 20, the front edge of the shelf is inserted into the front receptacle and the rear edge of the shelf includes a downwardly turned portion which extends into the rear receptacle.

To the contrary Bustos uses a series of angle brackets 52 which are attached to the underside of the shelf at the front and rear and which are screw fastened to the inside surfaces of the front and rear beams avoiding and ignoring altogether the receptacles.

Bustos therefore does not provide any of the above defined features concerning the front edge and the rear downturned portion which cooperate respectively with the front and rear receptacles.

The examiner has also cited Coretti which discloses wire shelving. However Coretti does not include the receptacle set forth above and certainly does not provide an arrangement which attaches the shelf using the receptacles as set forth above.

If one were therefore to attempt to look for disclosure in Coretti which overcomes the deficiencies of Bustos, no such disclosure is available. The combination of Bustos and Coretti therefore simply does not disclose the construction and arrangement of the front and rear edges as set forth above.

It is submitted therefore that claim 20 is distinguished from the prior art in view of the above features and should therefore be allowed.

Added claim 27 includes substantially all of the features of claim 20 together with the further feature that the downturned rear edge portion is formed by bending the shelf so that the bottom rear edge of the shelf extends into the receptacle.

Claim 31 has also been added which includes the above features of distinction together with a yet further feature that the shelf is formed of wire mesh so that the mesh is bent with the longitudinal wires which are across the depth of the shelf being bent downwardly to form the rear downwardly turned portion.

This claim is therefore yet further distinguished from Bustos in that the construction of Bustos uses angle brackets which are welded to or attached to the shelf and does not in any way disclose a construction in which the shelf itself or the wires themselves are bent downwardly to form the edge portion.

Additional dependent claims have been added to the above additional independent claims corresponding to claims 21, 22 and 26.

In view of the foregoing further and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

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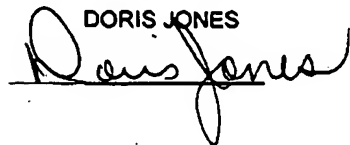
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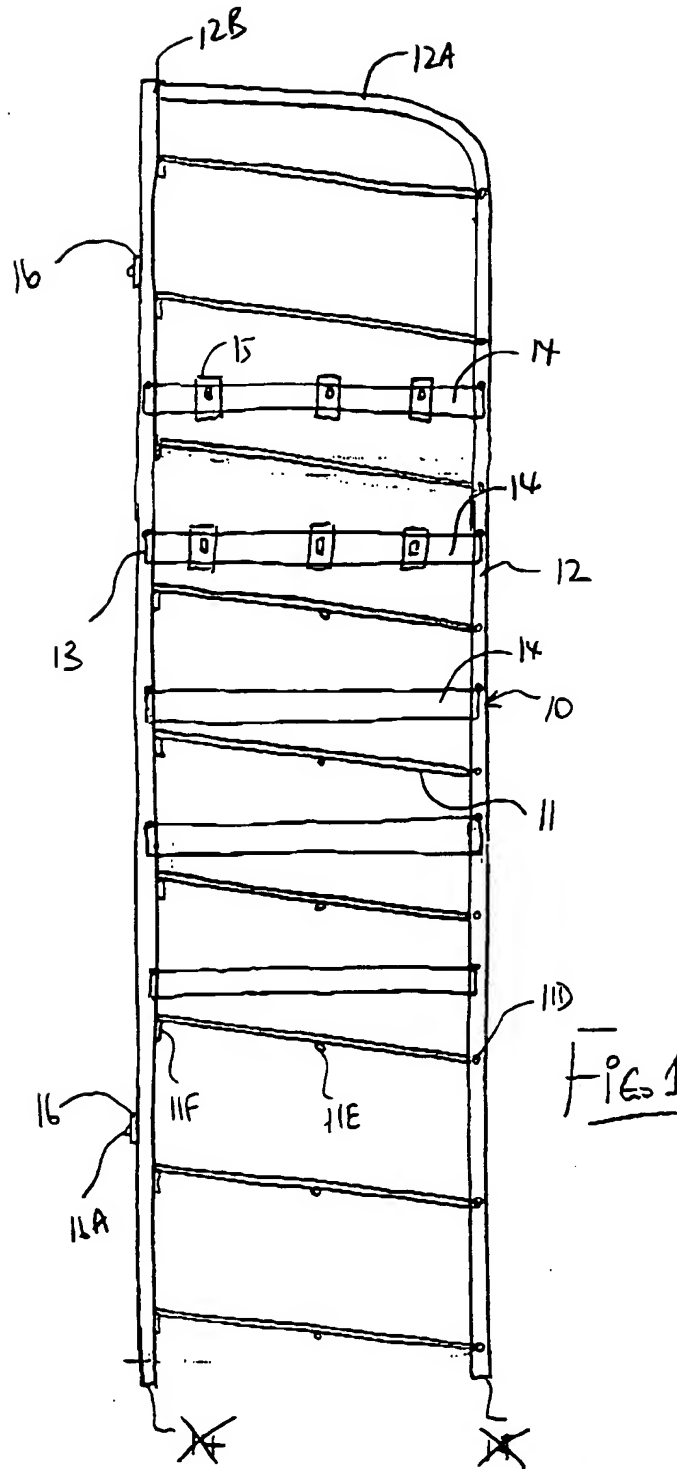
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Proposal being correction  
approved - 10/27/03